

2812

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/255,777
Filing Date	February 23, 1999
First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
Group Art Unit	2812
Examiner Name	Richard A. Booth
Attorney Docket Number	740756-1936

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114	
a. <input type="checkbox"/> Previously submitted	
i. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).	
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____	
iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed	
i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment/Reply	iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Submission of Formal Drawings
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)	v. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petition for Add'l TWO-month Extension of Time
iii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)	
2. Miscellaneous	
a. <input type="checkbox"/> Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)	
b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.	
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2380. A duplicate copy is enclosed.	
i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)	
ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)	
iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
b. <input type="checkbox"/> Check in the amount of \$_____ enclosed	
c. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (<i>Print/Type</i>)	Luan C. Do	Registration No. (<i>Attorney/Agent</i>)	38,434
Signature			
Date	December 1, 2003		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION
[37 CFR 1.8(a)]

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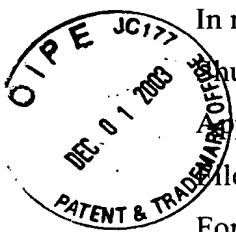
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Patent Application of:

Hidenpei Yamazaki et al.

Application No. 09/255,777

Mailed: February 23, 1999

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND
METHOD FOR FORMING THE SAME

-) Group Art Unit: 2812
-) Examiner: Richard A. Booth
-) Confirmation No. 9041
-) Date: December 1, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION
[37 CFR 1.8(a)]

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Signature: _____
Name: Deborah Movahhedi _____

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop **RCE**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action mailed October 23, 2003, and a telephonic interview with the Examiner on October 29, 2003, please consider the following amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application: